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already seen for himself the improbability of some of the features of Keller's scheme.

The book is evidently the result of much thought and labor, and some of its points are certainly very strong; but, on the whole, it is likely to disappoint even those who are so "unbefangen" as to commence reading it with the hope and expectation that they are going to find the troublesome problem at last solved. One lays the book down with the feeling that, whatever may be said of "rythmisch" in the title, "erwiesen" is certainly the wrong word.

M. W. H.

Brinton's Library of Aboriginal American Literature. Number VI. The Annals of the Cakchiquels. The Original Text with a Translation, Notes, and Introduction. By DANIEL G. BRINTON, A. M., M. D. Philadelphia, 1885. 8vo, pp. vi, 234.

Dr. Brinton has added another interesting book to his editions of American texts. The Cakchiquels occupied a portion of the area of the present State of Guatemala. The annals here published are from the pen of one of their own authors, a member of a distinguished family. He describes the early history of his people and the arrival of the Castilians, with the events that followed their conquest. These are not very remarkable, but they serve to give a picture of the times.

The editor has prefixed an index in which he discusses the ethnological position of the Cakchiquels; their culture; their capital city; computation of time; personal and family names; tribal subdivisions; terms of affinity and salutations; titles and social castes; religious notions, and language. The people, like the Mayas and Aztecs, were agriculturists and builders. They had the art of picture-writing, but the editor leaves it undecided whether their system was derived from that of the Mexicans or that of the Mayas. Their literature consisted of poems and dramas. The form of government was a limited monarchy, the regal power being divided between two families, to one of which belonged the author of the Annals. Their constitution was that of tribes and sub-tribes. It is curious that the name of one of their subdivisions, *hay*, is the same as the Arabic word for "tribe." It is to be hoped that nobody will found on this a theory of close relation between the two peoples. They had Nature-deities similar to those of the Mexicans; a sylvan deity known as "the man of the woods"; an obsidian oracle, to which they paid implicit obedience; they practised human sacrifices, and had a regular order of priests.

Dr. Brinton, though he acknowledges his obligations to the manuscript version of the late Abbé Brasseur, holds himself responsible for the present translation. For the grammar he has depended on the anonymous grammar which he edited for the American Philosophical Society in 1884. For the significations of the words his authorities are the Lexicon of Varea, of the seventeenth century, and the Spanish Cakchiquel work of Coto. A vocabulary of the Annals and an index of native proper names are appended. The work must be a useful one for students of native American peoples and languages.

C. H. TOY.